

What is the problem?

The **2011 Montana Youth Risk Behavior Survey** indicates that among high school students:

Sexual Risk Behaviors

- 48% ever had sexual intercourse.
- 4% had sexual intercourse for the first time before 13 years.
- 15% had sexual intercourse with four or more persons during their life.
- 35% had sexual intercourse with at least one person during the 3 months before the survey.
- 38% did not use a condom during last sexual intercourse.
- 72% did not use birth control pills or Depo-Provera before last sexual intercourse to prevent pregnancy.
- 15% were never taught in school about AIDS or HIV infection.

Alcohol and Other Drug Use

- 21% drank alcohol or used drugs before last sexual intercourse.
- 73% ever had a drink of alcohol.
- 25% binge drank during the past 30 days.
- 25% were offered, sold, or given an illegal drug on school property during the past 12 months.

What are the solutions?

Better health education • More comprehensive health education • More supportive policies • More family involvement

What is the status?

The **2010 Montana School Health Profiles** indicates that among high schools:

Health Education

- 94% required students to take 2 or more health education courses.
- 69% had a health education curriculum that addresses all 8 national standards for health education.
- 69% taught 8 key pregnancy, HIV, or other STD prevention topics in a required course.
- 41% taught 4 key topics related to condom use in a required course.
- 82% taught how to access valid and reliable health information, products, or services related to HIV, other STDs, and pregnancy in a required course.
- 35% had a lead health education teacher who received professional development within the past 2 years on HIV prevention.
- 30% had a lead health education teacher who received professional development within the past 2 years on pregnancy prevention.

Health Services

- 12% had a full-time registered nurse who provides health services to students at school.

Supportive Policies

- 25% had a gay/straight alliance or similar club.
- 2% provided curricula or supplementary materials and engaged in 5 practices related to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, or questioning (LGBTQ) youth.

Health Services

- 22% provided parents and families health information to increase parent and family knowledge of HIV prevention, STD prevention, or teen pregnancy prevention.